

LCC 2024 offers lots of great reasons to come early, stay late, and otherwise extend your stay in the Pacific Northwest.

No umbrella (or car) required!

The several city blocks connected by covered skywalks to the [Hyatt Regency Bellevue](#) are [The Bellevue Collection](#), with [more than 50 restaurants](#), two [multi-screen movie houses](#) (one reserved for [people old enough to consume adult beverages](#)), a [bowling alley / arcade](#), and more than 200 local, national, and global retailers.

It's also easy to visit [Bellevue Arts Museum](#) as part of The Bellevue Collection. And, if you're visiting with or meeting little people, [KidsQuest Museum](#) is 0.3 miles – a walk of 5 to 10 minutes – and next to the [local branch of the King County library](#).



[Bellevue Botanical Garden's Urban Meadow](#)

Spring in the Seattle area also can be a great time to spend time outdoors. Tulips and cherry trees will be blooming, and what non-residents call “rain” usually is no more than a light mist that typically passes in a few minutes.

The [Washington Trails Association](#) maintains a nearly exhaustive list of walks and hikes in the Evergreen State that you can filter by elevation, distance, and other variables.

The 53 spectacular acres of [Bellevue Botanical Garden](#) are open and free every day. And, just a few minutes away on the other side of Lake Washington, you can find [Washington Park Arboretum](#) and its acclaimed [Japanese Garden](#). For Japanese garden fans, don't miss [Kubota Garden](#), the hidden gem of Rainier Beach.

Bellevue considers itself [a city in park](#), with more than 100 destinations across 2,700 acres for walking and hiking, enjoying the shores and beaches of Lake Washington, picnicking, and more. For boat lovers, check out [Lake Washington and Lake Union cruises](#) from Kirkland, the town just north of Bellevue.

Find [a complete list of things to do and see in Bellevue](#) at Visit Bellevue.



Snoqualmie Falls by [Zak Gudakov](#) at [Unsplash](#)

You can always get [a damn fine cup of coffee](#) because it's easy to make a [Twin Peaks pilgrimage](#) to Snoqualmie, only 20 miles east of our LCC 2024 conference. Starbucks aficionados can visit [the first location](#) in Pike Place Market or [the first Reserve Roastery](#) in Capital Hill.

Seattle is recognized by the United Nations as a [UNESCO City of Literature](#). The [printed and digital maps](#) include more than 300 points of interest in and around Seattle – including the [Rem Koolhaas-designed Central Library](#).

Downtown Seattle is a short trip across Lake Washington from Bellevue. The iconic [Space Needle](#) is part of [Seattle Center](#), which was the location of the Century 21 Exposition in 1962. Other popular destinations in Seattle Center include [Museum of Pop Culture \(MoPOP\)](#) and [Chihuly Garden and Glass](#), as well as [Pacific Science Center](#) and [Seattle Children's Museum](#).

Historic [Pike Place Market](#) is one of the city's most popular destinations for visitors. The "soul of Seattle" spans nine acres in the center of downtown, hosting hundreds of residents and more than 200 independently owned shops and restaurants, almost 250 craftspeople and farmers, and more than 60 permitted buskers.



Pike Place Market by [Ryan Stone](#) at [Unsplash](#)

[Seattle Art Museum](#), the [Wing Luke Museum](#) of the Asian Pacific American Experience, [MOHAI](#), and the [Burke Museum](#) anchor the cultural heart of Seattle. The [Seattle Underground Tour](#) was a hugely popular part of the last LCC in Seattle, and also check out some of Seattle other quirky destinations such as [Seattle Pinball Museum](#), the [Fremont Troll](#), and almost [150 more weird and wonderful opportunities](#) to explore the Pacific Northwest.

Animal lovers can visit [Woodland Park Zoo](#), [Seattle Aquarium](#), and [Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium](#) in Tacoma.

Whale-watching and wildlife excursions depart from [Edmonds](#), just north of Seattle, and from Friday Harbor in the San Juan Islands, which requires a ferry ride from Anacortes.

And for people who just enjoy getting out on the water, [Argosy](#) is one of [several tour providers](#) in Seattle.



[Bill Speidel's Underground Tour](#)

The Seattle area also boasts unparalleled opportunities for aviation and aeronautic enthusiasts. The [Museum of Flight](#) at Boeing Field, south of downtown Seattle and north of Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, displays more than 175 aircraft. The [Future of Flight](#) at Paine Field in Everett lets you tour the facility where Boeing assembles its wide-body aircraft – if you've ever heard about the building that's so big it has its own clouds inside, this is the place.

Sports fans can check the schedules of pro teams including [Seattle Mariners](#) baseball, [Seattle Sounders](#) men's soccer, [OL Reign](#) women's soccer, [Seattle Dragons](#) XFL football, and [Seattle Seawolves](#) rugby. It's a little early for [Seattle Orcas](#) cricket, but check schedules for minor and development league games in all sports.

Seattle has something for everyone. Don't take our word for it – check out things to do from

- [Expedia](#)
- [Fodor's](#)
- [TravelLemming](#)
- [TripAdvisor](#)
- [US News & World Report](#)
- [Viator](#)
- [Visit Seattle](#)

Stay a little longer

Excursions and day trips from the Seattle area include easy [Amtrak Cascades](#) access to Vancouver, BC, Canada (don't forget your passport!) or Portland (and points south) and the [Victoria Clipper](#) fast ferry that runs from downtown Seattle to Victoria, BC.



Olympic National Park by [Zetong Li](#) at [Unsplash](#)

[Washington wine country](#) runs along Washington's [Columbia River border](#) with Oregon.

[Mount Rainier National Park](#), [Olympic National Park](#), and [North Cascades National Park](#) offer an embarrassment of riches for people who want to see the sights from their cars or get out in the wilderness.

Lonely Planet offers its ideas for [eight great day trips](#) from the Seattle area, and Postcards to Seattle offers [twenty day-trip inspirations](#).